

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WALZ. Mr. Speaker, we've all been here since January, dutifully collecting paychecks, and no budget for the American public, creating uncertainties in the businesses and keeping job growth down. It's straining our national security forces and making difficult choices for our Reserve commanders to plan ahead. It's putting political ideology above job creation and facts.

My Republican colleague friends have often told me what they thought last November's election meant and what the American people were saying. I will tell you what they weren't saying: We want you to go to Washington and put party above what's good for America; we want you to play chicken with America's economic future; we want you to protect millionaire CEO's and then blame the middle class and make sure you cut programs to their children; we want you to hold countless hearings on issues that do nothing except divide America and won't create a single job; oh, yeah, and we want you to point fingers at the other side and blame them, even though you run the House.

Here's what I think they might have been saying: Be leaders, compromise for the good of the country, and get America working again.

PROVIDE HOMEOWNERS TIME

(Mr. CLARKE of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CLARKE of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, our homeowners need help right now, and I'm asking this Congress to provide homeowners with something they don't have when they're facing foreclosure. It's time—time to find more income, time to find another buyer to pay off the mortgage, and most importantly, time and leverage to negotiate with their lender and mortgage holder, who typically keeps losing the paperwork until the homeowner runs out of time.

So I'm asking this Congress to freeze all foreclosures for homeowners who deserve it, for homeowners who can afford to maintain their property, because that's the best way to stabilize our economy and to save family homes.

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NOAA FUNDING CUTS

(Ms. EDWARDS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because I am really concerned about the continuing resolution we passed yesterday with over \$1 billion in cuts to one of the most important Federal agencies, NOAA. That's right, our weather and natural disaster folks.

When some people think of NOAA, they think of an agency that only impacts the coastal States, so cuts to this agency wouldn't impact them or their families. But it's important to know that every time we get the day's weather so we can prepare and make sure we are warm or dry, we use NOAA technology. Every time we get alerts about tornadoes or earthquakes, it's NOAA's technology.

In the wake of the tsunami that devastated Japan, the House yesterday passed a measure that would hamper our own ability to detect tsunamis. Currently, seven of the 39 Deep-ocean Assessment and Reporting of Tsunamis, DART, stations are non-operational due to broken moorings and equipment failures. And the cuts that we made yesterday put us in jeopardy—that's right—in the Pacific Ocean, in the Atlantic, and in the gulf. We are all in jeopardy because of those cuts yesterday, and NOAA won't have an opportunity to repair them and to restore them, degrading the quality of our warnings.

Mr. Speaker, this is senseless, and it's time for the American people to speak up against this senseless policy.

THE REPUBLICAN WAR ON THE MIDDLE CLASS

(Ms. CLARKE of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the majority's aggressive war on the middle class and those who aspire to be in the middle class. Today we're debating two bills that, if passed, will leave Americans with no Federal support to save their homes, and the worsening of the foreclosure crisis. Which, in effect, is a "body blow" that will leave millions of Americans who are struggling to find jobs even more vulnerable to losing their homes.

We are now in the 11th week of the 112th Congress, and the majority has yet to bring a single jobs bill to the floor for a vote. Instead, the majority has proposed a long-term continuing resolution that would eliminate 700,000 jobs while at the same time protecting tax cuts for multimillionaires and billionaires, the so-called job creators. The question remains, what exactly is the majority proposing to incentivize and encourage job creation? Where are the jobs? Mr. Speaker, the American people are waiting for the majority to stop the recalcitrant assault on the middle class and those who are aspiring to be in the middle class and work in a bipartisan way to do what we all were elected to do, which is to work for them, not against them.

WE NEED A REAL BUDGET

(Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I know we're not supposed to remind us of our history. I won't be long. But if you will recall, some 8 years prior to this present administration, day after day after day, our budget was simply imploding with millions, trillions of dollars going into the war in Iraq. So here we are. Someone wants to blame the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Well, let me explain to you, we were in double-digit unemployment. Look where we are today, going up and not down in terms of job creation and going down in terms of unemployment. The economy was sick, and it is coming back. But what do our colleagues want to do? Pass CRs that every economist says is the wrong direction to go in 2011.

It's like you started out with \$150 for the household expenses that you have. You had that money to pay for the expenses of that month, and all of a sudden, somebody came and said, You know what, I'm taking \$75 away from you, so you don't have that money to pay your expenses. And guess what, you are in the hole. Why are you cutting budgets in 2011? Why are you cutting 16,000 law enforcement jobs? Why are you cutting 800,000 jobs? Why are you cutting 800 Border Patrol jobs? This is the wrong direction to go. We need a real budget. We need real leadership. Adults need to come to the table and work together and solve this budget crisis.

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY TO WESTMINSTER, COLORADO

(Mr. POLIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 100th birthday of the city of Westminster, Colorado, one of the Colorado Front Range urban corridor's principal cities. Westminster is framed by the natural beauty of the nearby Rocky Mountains. Westminster's scenic and convenient setting is located between the economic hubs of Denver and Boulder, which has attracted many residents and businesses to the city. Settlers from the East first came to the area of Westminster in the 1870s. It used to be known as the Village of Harris and was formally founded as the town of Westminster on April 4, 1911.

Westminster is notable in the Front Range urban area for its long-term commitment to the preservation of open spaces. It has received numerous national rewards and recognition for sustainable development, technology integration in city government, and quality of life. The miles of trails provide public access for outdoor recreational activities that are so important to Colorado residents. I congratulate the people of Westminster on 100 years of progress and prosperity and look eagerly forward to what the future holds for this forward-looking Colorado city.